



# Chippewa Flowage Area Property Owners Association

S P R I N G 2 0 0 7 N E W S L E T T E R

## FROM DOUG KURTZWEIL, CHAIR

Springtime greetings from the rising waters of the Chippewa Flowage. At this writing (early April) the ice is gone from the creek out front the geese are back, I've heard wood ducks and sandhill cranes, seen robins and herons, and the eagles are cavorting. Spring is here!

In a lot of ways, it's been an easy winter. While the ice was thick, the snow wasn't, and as a result, oxygen levels seemed to remain adequate and our fishery should have come through in good shape. Due to your comments about water levels, and the power company's raised awareness of the local drought, winter drawdown of the Flowage was minimal. Everything points toward an absolutely wonderful season of experiencing the Chippewa Flowage.

Over the last several years I've asked you to share your treasure (see Chippewa Islands Project Update). Now I will ask you to share your time, or more importantly, your thoughts. Your CFAPOA has been partnering on various levels with a number of entities in pursuit of our mission to protect and enhance the Chippewa Flowage. The WDNR in acquisitions and fisheries management plans, the LCO College Extension on invasive species matters, and the LCO Conservation Department on water quality issues are just a few examples.

I believe it is incumbent upon us to continue to nurture and grow these relationships. In my effort on behalf of the Chippewa Islands Project, I have had the privilege to begin to get to know some fine people from LCO. I am convinced that many of them care about our Flowage every bit as much as any of us do. I would hope that LCO's commitment to the Flowage is evident to you by their huge investment in the "Moonshine" phase of the Chippewa Islands Project.

ALL of us have a lot of different primary interests. We are business and personal; fishers and water-skiers; hunters and pleasure boaters; bird watchers and trappers. But, in spite of the different directions from which we view and use the resource, we all have a common love and, hopefully, commitment, to the long term viability and sustainability of this resource as we know it. I believe that the native and non-native communities have much more in common, than not, when we get to the shores of the Chippewa Flowage. What do you think?

So, as we head out on the water let's keep in mind everyone else might love it as much as we do. Let's remember that they are family, friends, or guests of others of us. Let's remember that if we're close, NO WAKE. Let's be careful. Let's be courteous. And, are you wearing your life jacket? Have fun, be safe, enjoy.



**GOOD NEWS!**  
**SEE PAGE 4 FOR  
ISLANDS PROJECT  
UPDATE**

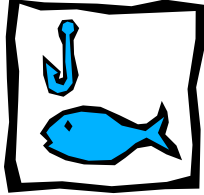
*13th ANNUAL SPRING FLING*  
See pages 2 & 9 for more information.



# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## Fisheries by John Kaiser & Terry Kinderman

Dave Neuswanger, DNR Fisheries Supervisor for the Upper Chippewa Basin, reports that the Long Range Habitat & Fisheries Plan for the Chippewa Flowage is nearing completion and should be completed in the next few weeks. We will inform you of the details in the next newsletter. Dave will be discussing the Plan and taking questions at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, at Deer Run Resort. He also reported that Moose Lake is nearly filled and water is being diverted down the West Fork to prevent ice damage on Moose Lake. The Flowage is rapidly filling and is up 10-3/4" since April 1<sup>st</sup>. One day it came up 4". It is now at 1311.05 and will peak at 1312.05. It looks like we could be at full pool by mid to late April. Let's all pray for bountiful spring rains so we can keep the Big Chip at full pool this season.



## Funding Raising by John Kaiser

Our 2006 CFAPOA Conservation Projects Raffle was very successful, raising over \$7,000. Again, we Thank All of You who participated for your generous support! At this time there are no major fundraising plans for 2007. We will be discussing fundraising at our April 5<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, and will keep you advised if a project is launched for 2007.



## Invasive Species

The beetles are coming! If you'd like to help release the beetles that eat the purple loosestrife, please contact Dennis Clagett at rclagett@centurytel.net or 715-462-4814. And, watch the summer issue of this newsletter for details on how you and your family can join the Purple Loosestrife Patrol. It's fun and it's a great way to help our lake.



## New Members

Please welcome the following new members: Ernest & Mollie Harper (West Fork Ave) and Geno & Teri Gordon (Larush Rd)



## Social by Nancy Ruhlow

Hey, get off the couch, get out of the boat. or , put down that rake. It's time to be social! Plan on attending the 13th Annual Spring Fling from 4-6 pm at Treeland's Resort off Hwy B on Saturday, June 2nd. Cost is \$8 per person which includes 1 drink and hors d'oeuvres. Tip is not included. If you wish to donate a raffle item for that day, please note it on the reservation form. If you wish to donate a non-perishable food items for the Hayward Community Food Shelf or items for the Northwoods Humane Society, bring them with you to the party. Please join us for this fun filled late afternoon event and meet or reacquaint yourselves with fellow property owners. Reservations are required. See page 9 for the reservation form. Questions? Contact me at 945-2340.

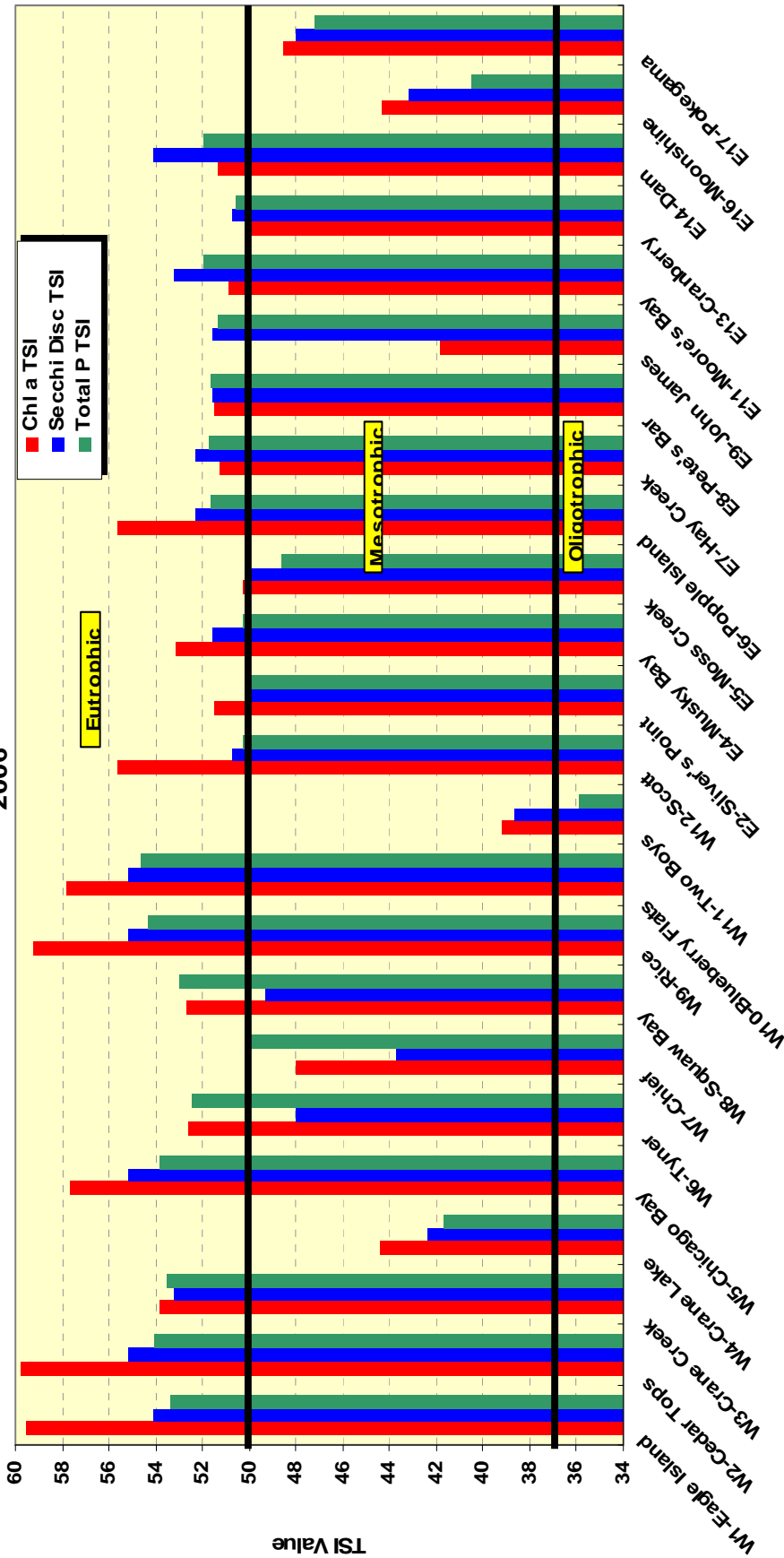


## Water Quality by Chris Jeffords

See page 3 for committee report and graph.



### Chippewa Flowage Summer Average TSI Values 2006

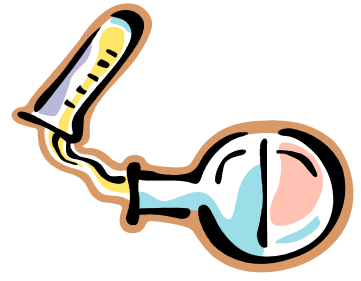


### COMMITTEE REPORT: Water Quality by Chris Jeffords

Samples for chlorophyll, phosphorous, and clarity will again be taken this summer period in cooperation with the LCO Conservation Department. From Memorial Day to Labor Day, approximately 24 sites throughout the flowage will be sampled and analyzed. The results from last summer in graphic form are included in this issue and are being used to create a baseline of data for these 3 measurements. Comparing the results of 2005 to 2006, the differences seen are only slightly significant and are being evaluated by the DNR and the LCO Conservation Department.

A more complete description of these results is included in the summer issue of the newsletter found on our website as well as the graph from the previous summer of 2005. In short, values indicate the relative trophic condition (aging) and level of phosphorous (chlorophyll levels) present.

As we have mentioned previously, phosphorous from fertilizer runoff is one of the areas owners of riparian property (property next to water) can positively affect the water quality of our lake. Even though our water quality is impacted greatly by the inflows upstream, using fertilizers without phosphorous will help our lake and also those downstream. Efforts are being promoted to limit or even ban phosphorous countywide and even statewide similar to Minnesota. These would help improve the incoming water quality to the flowage.



## CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

by Chris Jeffords

The Chippewa Flowage Area Property Owners Association Board is pleased to announce the continuation of the program designed to assist interested members in learning more about recent techniques that help protect our great resource. The Northwest Lakes Conference Scholarship Award will reimburse up to \$80 each to 5 lucky members who would like to go to the Northwest Lakes Annual Meeting on June 21-22, 2007. This scholarship covers entry fees for both Thursday and Friday plus lunches both days and dinner Thursday night.

The Northwest Lakes Conference is being held at Telemark Resort in Cable. The convention will cover a wealth of information on lakes and lake issues such as management and science, lake organization management, wildlife and fisheries, and aquatic invasives. Details can be found at the website <http://www.wisconsinlakes.org/Events/O7nwl.htm#registration> or by contacting a board member.

If you're interested in receiving a scholarship, please contact any Board member to express your interest before June 1st. Scholarship recipients will be announced at the Spring Fling (June 2nd) and recipients will be notified by phone also.

## **TOWN OF HUNTER 2007 DUMP HOURS**

[<http://home.centurytel.net/huntertownship>]

### **Winter hours until April 28th**

*Saturdays only—9:00 am to 2:00 pm*

### **Summer hours starting May 5**

*Mondays & Wednesdays—8:00 am to 1:00 pm*

*Saturdays—8:00 am to 2:00 pm*

### **Spring Clean-Up**

*Saturday, June 2nd— 8:00 am to 4:00 pm*

### **Winter hours starting September 29th**

*Saturdays only—9:00 am to 2:00 pm*

*(Please cut on dashed lines and post for future reference.)*

## ISLANDS PROJECT UPDATE

by Doug Kurtzweil

On the morning of March 30, 2007, I had the opportunity to observe the closing of a significant real estate transaction. With the signing and exchange of documents, the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Ojibwe acquired title to the 17 ± acres of land and nearly 3000 feet of undeveloped shoreline on the "Moonshine" island that had been targeted for multi-unit development several years ago. The Chippewa Islands Project has been successfully completed. The last two, large, undeveloped, privately owned island parcels on the Flowage are now in public/quasi public ownership. A high quality, "up north", semi-wilderness, Chippewa Flowage experience in the southeast quadrant is now assured for future generations.

All of you had a hand in this. Whether with your patience and perseverance, energy and encouragement, or time and treasure, it never would have happened without you. Even those several of you who had doubts, with review and reflection and revision, your doubts became "dares".

There may still be a small island parcel or two at risk. With your guidance and support, the Board of your CFAPOA will remain vigilant, vigorous, and vital.

Due to the manner in which the acquisition of "Moonshine" was capitalized, the CWRLT/CHIP account is left with surplus funds. I have spoken to several of the larger donors. The account could be refunded or held, to assist with and leverage a future acquisition. I'm told the WDNR is engaged in serious discussions regarding at least 2 mainland properties on the Flowage of ecological and aesthetical significance. Again, I and your Board, request your guidance.

In the quiet of a late evening, and in the peace of the pre-dawn, I pause ... and I can almost hear the voices from the future, joining me to say **THANK YOU!**



# WATER LEVELS

As you are well aware, the water level of the Chippewa Flowage was drastically reduced last year. The water level fell below 1311' on Labor Day and reached a low point of 1309.52' on 9/22/06. During this period of time and for the remaining portion of the summer and fall seasons, the waters of the Flowage were dangerous for boaters to navigate because of the high risk of doing damage to their boats and motors.

On October 10<sup>th</sup> and December 19<sup>th</sup> of 2006, concerned citizens from the Chippewa Flowage community met with Xcel to voice concerns and to understand each other's needs. At first, Xcel seemed unresponsive to our concerns but shortly after that meeting, Xcel sent CFAPOA a letter explaining how they would try to work with us better in the future. That letter was published in our last newsletter. In summary, Xcel said they would (1) understand impacts of low water elevations on recreational users of the Chippewa Storage Reservoir when making operational decisions, (2) evaluate historical rainfall patterns during abnormal conditions, (3) Actively communicate with local residents, and (4) provide routine operational updates on the reservoir.

Since early 2007, an independent and volunteer committee of concerned citizens has become active with research on the legal documents governing the Chippewa Flowage and contacting other concerned parties about the possibility of changing the policies of regulating the water drawdown. This group calls itself the Chippewa Flowage Water Level Committee (CFWLC). It has had several meetings with representatives from the CFAPOA, LCFRA, LCO Conservation Dept., US Forest Service, DNR

and Congressman David Obey's representative, Matt Rudig. This is not a CFAPOA committee, but we do have representation on it. Your CFAPOA Board is reviewing their findings currently and will keep you informed of any action taken by them on your behalf.

Some of issues this committee is hoping to address are:

- Negotiating a change in Xcel policy toward the Chippewa Flowage. A few years ago the Eau Claire/Chippewa Falls/Lake Holcombe area negotiated a change with Xcel and in the October 2001 issue of the Natural Resources Magazine (WI-DNR), "Changes on the Chippewa" <http://www.wnrmag.com/stories/2001/oct01/dams.htm>, reported it to the public. The committee has concluded, "If this was accomplished in the Lower Chippewa River Basin, why can't we do it here"?
- Establishing new water drawdown level standards
- Tribal archeological concerns
- Erosion of the shorelines (mainland and islands)
- Fishery and wildlife Issues
- Tourism
- Environmental
- Invasive species

The CFAPOA hopes that you will take the time to share your input/support of the work of this committee to bring brighter tomorrows for all parties involved, as well as the fishery, wildlife and environment of the Chippewa Flowage. Any and all comments can be sent by email to [cfapoa@hotmail.com](mailto:cfapoa@hotmail.com) or CFAPOA, PO Box 555, Hayward, WI 54843.

## From the Sawyer County Land & Water Conservation Department

"Many shoreline property owners are doing a fantastic job of protecting our Northwoods resources. That effort serves as a shining example to others and deserves recognition and designation as a **Conservation Star Home**. This new program is a way to thank and recognize those of you who have maintained a natural setting or restored your shoreline and also practice other conservation measures.

If you are interested in finding out more about this new initiative or would like to be considered for Conservation Star Home designation contact Jan Eck, Conservation Secretary, at the address and phone below."

Sawyer County LWCD, 10610 Main St, PO Box 89, Hayward, WI 54843 or 715-634-6463 or [lwsec@sawycountygov.org](mailto:lwsec@sawycountygov.org)

## Chippewa Flowage Storage Reservoir Forecast from Xcel

**Elevation as of March 27, 2007:** 1310.46 ft.

**Season:** Spring 2007 (April 1 – June 1)

**Typical Spring Full Elevation:** 1313.0 ft.

**2007 Projected Spring Full Elevation Range:**  
1312.5 – 1313.0 ft.

### Comments

- The extremely dry conditions that were experienced last year have continued through the winter months and into the spring in the upper portion of the Chippewa River watershed. The snowpack was extremely limited this winter, which contributed very little inflow into the reservoir when it melted.
- Xcel Energy performed a minimal drawdown of 2.68 ft. (elevation 1310.32) this winter due to concerns with having to refill during the spring-time months with limited snowpack and river inflow. The previously targeted winter drawdown elevation of 1309.5 ft. was never reached due to concerns with refilling in the spring.
- Discharge from the dam will be maintained at or slightly above the minimum flow requirement (250 cfs) until the reservoir refills.
- Spring rains and any resulting river inflow to the reservoir are impossible to predict in advance. As such, the rate of refill or target elevations are also difficult, if not impossible, to predict with a high degree of accuracy.

Xcel Energy will re-evaluate reservoir levels and discharge from the dam through the spring to refill the reservoir as much as rainfall and runoff dictates. Discharge from the dam will be readjusted as necessary during the spring period to try to refill the reservoir to the target level range.



Fertilizers that contain phosphorus promote weed growth in our lake. Please use phosphorus free fertilizers only.  
Thanks!

## Ideas for spring & summer & fall ...

### Ongoing

- Hayward Fame Flea Market—Memorial Day to Labor Day; Hwy 27 & County CC; Tuesdays and Wednesdays
- Monday Flea Market—Memorial Day to last Monday in August; Hayward Sports Center
- Farmer's Market—June to September; Sawyer County Fairground

### May

- 5th Fishing Season Opener
- 10-13th Treeland Walleye Challenge
- 18-20th Fishing Has No Boundaries Event
- 26th Muskies Season Opener

### June

- 21-24th 58th Annual Musky Festival
- 21-22nd NW Wisconsin Lakes Conference

### July

- 20-22nd LCO Honor the Earth Powwow
- 27-29th Lumberjack World Championships

### August

- 2-5th Sawyer County Fair
- 4th Moose Lake Festival
- 5th [CFAPOA Annual Meeting & Picnic](#)
- 25-27th Musky Shootout

### September

- 14-16th Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival
- 22 Hayward Fall Festival

### October

- 6th Stone Lake Cranberry Festival

For more information about these events, call or visit the Hayward Visitors Center. You may also want to visit the Chamber of Commerce website at [www.haywardareachamber.com](http://www.haywardareachamber.com). They have even more information and ideas for you!



Post Office Box 20  
Hayward, WI 54843

## QUARTERLY MEMBERSHIP NEWS QUARTER 1, 2007

The February Board meeting of the Sawyer County Lakes Forum was held at the Flat Creek Eatery on Feb. 15, 2007. Top agenda items included an update of the Sawyer County Shoreland Subcommittee meetings, by-law changes needed to make SCLF eligible for DNR grants, and the newly proposed Sawyer County Wind Energy System Ordinance.

At the first Shoreland Subcommittee meeting, future topics to be considered were discussed and then agreed upon. Those were Class 4 lakes, Campgrounds, and Impervious Surfaces.

Since these subcommittee meetings are open to the public, meeting dates, times and location are being placed in the local newspapers. Check them and attend whenever you can. Involvement in these issues will help mold their outcomes.

In order for the Sawyer County Lakes Forum to be eligible for DNR grants, some changes need to be made to our by-laws. In short, these changes amount to reducing the existing restrictions for membership. Without going into detail now, these will be brought to the spring meeting for ratification before they can be implemented. Be sure to attend this important meeting for the full agenda May 19, 2007 @ 8:30am in the LCO bingo hall. The tentative agenda is shown at the end of this report as well as on the website.

Although the proposed wind ordinance was a good first draft, it was felt by the board that many changes needed to be incorporated before it should be considered final. This was the position that was agreed to be taken to the county at either their next board meeting or a public hearing.

At the fall 2006 SCLF Membership Meeting a motion was passed to submit a resolution banning phosphorous containing fertilizers in the county/state. Committee members have been working on this since then, obtaining various resolutions throughout the state from lakes groups as well as town/county boards. A final draft resolution has been completed and will also be presented at the May 19 meeting. As many of you may have seen, the spring newsletter from Sawyer County Land and Water Conservation focuses on voluntary elimination of phosphorous containing fertilizers.

Lastly, our May membership meeting is shaping up to contain items of interest to everyone. Current SCLF activities, updates, resolutions, invasive species presentations, and see the kickoff of a countywide shoreland recognition program, the "Conservation Star Home." We are even trying to complete plans for an afternoon workshop. See you there.

### Sawyer County Lakes Spring Meeting May 19, 2007 Agenda LCO Bingo Hall *(Tentative as of March 27, 2007)*

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| 8:30 am  | Registration/Sign in  |
| 9:00 am  | Welcome, Sept 2006 minutes<br>Waldo Asp, President SCLF   |
| 9:15 am  | Role call<br>Treasurers Report<br>Tom Rehfeldt, Secy/Treas<br>SCLF Board activities<br>Chris Jeffords, Vice President<br>By-law amendments<br>Dale Anderson<br>Sawyer County Committee Update,<br>Phil Nies<br>Website Report<br>Bruce Meyers, Past President |
| 10:15 am | Sawyer County Land and Water Conservation<br>Priorities<br>Dale Olson, Conservationist SCLWC<br>Bruce Paulsen, CWRLT  |
| 11:00 am | Invasive Species<br>Kristi Maki, DNR: LCO Conservation  |
| 11:30 am | Motions from the floor  |
| 12:00 pm | Set Fall meeting Date- Sept 22<br>Adjourn / Lunch @ LCO   |
| 1:00 pm  | "Clean Boats: Clean Waters Workshop<br>David Blumer/ Laura Felda-Marquardt<br>Session is free<br>\$25 charge for kit & materials  |



**CONGRATULATIONS**

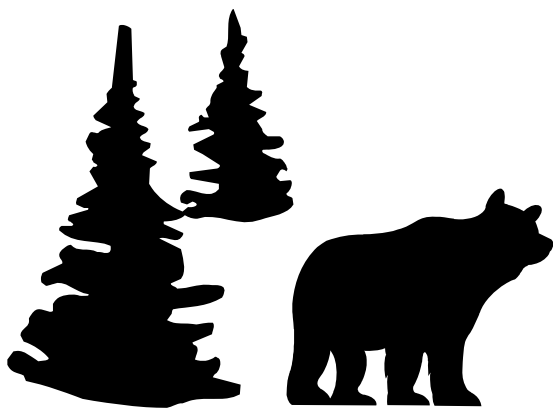
Congratulations and best wishes to members Jeff and Carrie Farley on their recent marriage.

**MEMBERSHIP OOPS** Our apologies to Duane & Joanne Clark who were accidentally omitted from the 2006-07 Directory. They have been members since 2003 and want you to know they still belong to CFAPOA. If you want their addresses or telephone numbers, please contact CFAPOA by email or snail mail.

**MEMBERSHIP** We currently have 392 property memberships. That's up 16 from a year ago. New and returning members are always welcome. Please feel free to share the application form in this newsletter with anyone who lives within 2 miles of the Chippewa Flowage who's interested in joining. The membership application form can also be found online at [www.cfapoa.org](http://www.cfapoa.org) Just click on "JOIN." *Reminder: New members who join after May 1st receive membership until August, 2008.*

**THANK YOU, THANK YOU!** Thank you to the following individuals and businesses for their generous donations to the CFAPOA General Fund:

Jeff & Carrie Farley  
Treeland Resorts & Bill Meiser



**CFAPOA 2005-2006  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Doug Kurtzweil, Chair	462-9679
Marl Reeder, Vice Chair	945-2286
Barb Schweig, Secretary	945-2340
Patti Jeffords, Treasurer	945-3085
Chuck Block	266-8800
Dennis Clagett	462-4814
Diane Collins	462-4719
Donna Gilbertson	945-2817
Chris Jeffords	945-3085
Dick Kahler	945-2491
John Kaiser	462-3450
Terry Kinderman	462-3733
Nancy Ruhlow	945-2340

**PLEASE STAY IN TOUCH** We're always interested in your opinions and comments. Contact us anytime at [cfapoa@hotmail.com](mailto:cfapoa@hotmail.com) OR [www.cfapoa.org](http://www.cfapoa.org) OR CFAPOA, PO Box 555, Hayward, WI 54843-0555. And, please remember to let us know of any change in your addresses, phone numbers or email address.

**MEMORIALS** CFAPOA respectfully accepts donations in the name of members and friends of the Chippewa Flowage. To make a donation, just send your check and the person's name to us. The family will be notified of your donation. Current donations will be used for CFAPOA conservation projects, unless specified differently by you.

**TOWN OF HUNTER WEBSITE** The Town of Hunter has a new website where you can learn all kinds of important and interesting things about township happenings as well as contact addresses and phone numbers. Check it out at: <http://home.centurytel.net/huntertownship>

Newsletter Editor: Barb Schweig    Newsletter Advisors: CFAPOA Board Members  
Tech Team: Jackie Eckerly, Patti Jeffords, Marlen Kaiser, Jo Keyes, Marl Reeder, Nancy Ruhlow & Carmen Sipes



# Please share with a friend or neighbor!

## CHIPPEWA FLOWAGE AREA PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION **2007-08** MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Please print or type)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Town, State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Local Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

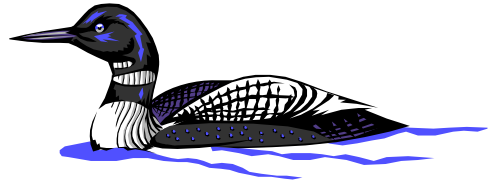
Local Area Address \_\_\_\_\_

Local Area Town, State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return this form and your check to:*

*CFAPOA  
PO Box 555  
Hayward, WI 54843-0555*

*2007-08 membership = \$25 per property New members joining after  
May 1st will have membership benefits until July 31, 2008.*



## 13th ANNUAL SPRING FLING RESERVATION

*Saturday, June 2, 2007 at Treeland Resort from 4:00—6:00 pm*

*(Reservation requested by May 26th, please)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

*\$8.00 per person (1 drink + hors d'oeuvres)*

*I (We) will bring and donate a raffle item: \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no*

*Donations for the Hayward Community Food Shelf & Northwoods Humane Society welcome.*

*Send your reservation and check payable to CFAPOA to:  
CFAPOA, PO Box 555, Hayward, WI 54843-0555  
Reservations are NOT refundable after May 26th*



CHIPPEWA FLOWAGE AREA PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION  
P.O. Box 555  
HAYWARD, WI 54843-0555



## Please mark your calendar

- 5/3/07 CFAPOA Board of Directors Meeting at Town of Hunter Hall (7 pm)
- 6/2/07 **CFAPOA Spring Fling at Treeland's Resort (4-6 pm)**  
Donations accepted for the Northwoods Humane Society and/or  
the Hayward Community Food Shelf.
- 6/7/07 CFAPOA Board of Directors Meeting at Town of Hunter Hall (7 pm)
- 7/5/07 CFAPOA Board of Directors Meeting at Town of Hunter Hall (7 pm)
- 8/2/07 CFAPOA Board of Directors Meeting at Town of Hunter Hall (7 pm)
- 8/5/07 **CFAPOA Annual Meeting & Picnic at Deer Run Resort (11 pm)**  
Donations accepted for the Northwoods Humane Society and/or  
the Hayward Community Food Shelf.